



Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 2, 2009, 4:10 p.m.

Contact: Leah Bucco-White
402-471-2067

Leah.bucco-white@nebraska.gov

Attorney General Bruning Charges Former Deputy District Court Clerk With Theft

Note: A sound bite on this topic is available at: <http://www.ago.ne.gov>

(Lincoln, Neb.) Attorney General Jon Bruning charged Teresa White, the former Otoe County Deputy District Court Clerk, with one count of theft.

The Attorney General's Office requested a State Patrol investigation after State Auditor Mike Foley discovered a serious shortage of funds in the Otoe County District Court's account. The investigation showed White, 43, had taken more than \$28,000 from the Otoe County District Court between Jan. 1, 2007 and Jan. 31, 2008. During the investigation, White admitted to taking the money and told investigators she had a lot of credit card bills and college expenses.

"Turning to crime in the face of financial hardship only makes a bad situation worse," said Bruning. "A stack of bills is no excuse to steal from your employer. Ms. White pocketed money for personal use, and she'll suffer the consequences."

White, who currently lives in Oklahoma, was arrested on an Otoe County warrant by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol last night. She will appear before the Oklahoma court where she will decide whether to waive extradition back to Nebraska. If she chooses not to waive, the Attorney General's Office will start extradition proceedings to have Ms. White returned to Nebraska.

Theft by unlawful taking is a class III felony which carries a penalty of one to 20 years in jail and up to a \$25,000 fine or both.

###